

Introduced by Senator Margett

February 24, 2006

An act to amend Section 53234 of the Government Code, relating to local agencies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1679, as introduced, Margett. Local agencies: ethics.

Existing law provides for the establishment and operations of cities, counties, cities and counties, districts, and other local government agencies, the composition of their governing bodies, and the payment of governing body members for attending meetings and performing other duties. Existing law requires that specified local agency officials receive training with respect to ethics laws, as defined.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 53234 of the Government Code is
2 amended to read:
3 53234. For the purposes of this article, the following terms
4 *shall* have the following meanings:
5 (a) "Legislative body" has the same meaning as specified in
6 Section 54952.
7 (b) "Local agency" means a city, county, city and county,
8 charter city, charter county, charter city and county, or special
9 district.
10 (c) "Local agency official" means the following:

1 (1) Any member of a local agency legislative body or any
2 elected local agency official who receives any type of
3 compensation, salary, or stipend or reimbursement for actual and
4 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.

5 (2) Any employee designated by a local agency legislative
6 body to receive the training specified under this article.

7 (d) “Ethics laws” include, but are not limited to, the following:

8 (1) Laws relating to personal financial gain by public servants,
9 including, but not limited to, laws prohibiting bribery and
10 conflict-of-interest laws.

11 (2) Laws relating to claiming prerequisites of office, including,
12 but not limited to, gift and travel restrictions, prohibitions against
13 the use of public resources for personal or political purposes,
14 prohibitions against gifts of public funds, mass mailing
15 restrictions, and prohibitions against acceptance of free or
16 discounted transportation by transportation companies.

17 (3) Government transparency laws, including, but not limited
18 to, financial interest disclosure requirements and open
19 government laws.

20 (4) Laws relating to fair processes, including, but not limited
21 to, common law bias prohibitions, due process requirements,
22 incompatible offices, competitive bidding requirements for
23 public contracts, and disqualification from participating in
24 decisions affecting family members.